

Docket No.: 42390.P11010

REMARKS

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Meissner et al. or Hughes v. Thony et al

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-9 and 11-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meissner et al. (6,160,824) or Hughes (WO 87/04881) when taken with Thony et al. (5,982,802).

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Meissner, Hughes, and Thony do not disclose, alone or in combination, an optical amplifier comprising a single-mode waveguide embedded in a device substrate and a plurality of laser spaced apart from one another along the length of the single-mode waveguide as claimed in independent claims 1, 9, 15, 21, and their respective dependent claims. Furthermore, the prior art fails to teach combining the VCSELs of Thony with the apparatuses disclosed in either Meissner or Hughes. The Examiner is kindly reminded of the requirements for establishing a *prima facie* obviousness rejection:

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. MPEP §§ 2142, 2143.

The Examiner has not set forth any suggestion or motivation to combine or modify Meissner, Hughes or Thony to arrive at the Applicant's claimed invention. In addition, the Examiner also has not set forth any expectation by those having skill in the art that a combination of either Hughes or Meissner with Thony would result in a successful combination or modification. Lastly, the Examiner has not established that any of the references teaches all of the limitations in the claims. For example, the Examiner has failed to point to any "*plurality of lasers*" that are "*spaced apart from one another along the length of the single-mode waveguide*" as recited in the Applicant's claims. Thus, a *prima facie* obviousness rejection was not set forth, so the rejection should be withdrawn.

Docket No.: 42390.P11010
Appl. No.: 10/020,143

Docket No.: 42390.P11010

Conclusion

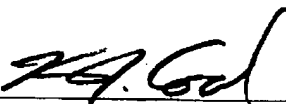
In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is hereby earnestly requested.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney, Kenneth J. Cool, at (408) 850-1229 if there remains any issue with allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
INTEL CORPORATION

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Docket No.: 42390.P11010
Appl. No.: 10/020,143